TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: SUPERVISOR MARY N. PIEPHO

DATE: MARCH 7, 2006

SUBJECT: EAST COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

SPECIFIC REQUEST(S) OR RECOMMENDATION(S) & BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION



Contra Costa County

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DIRECT the County Administrator's Office to conduct an East County Needs Assessment with all County Department Heads to study the effectiveness of County services in Far East County and identify where services can be improved.

REPORT back to the Board of Supervisors and Supervisor Piepho's office in written format within three (3) weeks to determine which services from County departments can be improved in Far East County and provide a suggested course of action on how to improve said services.

FISCAL IMPACT

Staff Costs

BACKGROUND / REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Eastern Contra Costa County has historically been challenged in receiving county services. Given the recent rate of growth in the Far East County, a study needs to be conducted to examine how we can better service the residents of Far East County. A in-depth study should examine each County Department and the services which that Department provides and determine whether those services are being adequately received by residents in East Contra Costa County.

The challenge in receiving services from the County by residents who live in Far East County is due to extensive travel time to the County seat in Martinez and a historically low level of County services physically delivered in East Contra Costa County. Improvements have been made recently which residents are receiving favorably. For example, departments such as Building Inspection and Community Development have made efforts to have offices and staff on-site in East Contra Costa County to make the delivery of services more accessible for East Contra Costa County residents. An in-depth review of all Departments will ascertain what services can be more easily offered and made more accessible to the residents of East Contra Costa County.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Residents of Eastern Contra Costa County will continue to be at a disadvantage in partaking of vital County services because of a lack of physical presence from County Departments and a lack of education in the East County communities about County services that are available to its residents.

Continued on Attachment:	SIGNATURE:
 □ RECOMMENDATION OF COUNTY ADMINIS □ APPROVE □ OTHER 	TRATOR RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE
SIGNATURE(S):	
ACTION OF BOARD ONAPPROVED AS RECOMMENDED OTHER	
VOTE OF SUPERVISORS UNANIMOUS (ABSENT)	I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taker and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.
AYES: NOES: ABSENT: ABSTAIN: CONTACT: Ryan P. Klobas, Chief of Staff, District III	ATTESTED: JOHN CULLEN, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator
cc: Members, Board of Supervisors John Cullen, County Administrator	By, Deputy